(b) Investment made during the last five years in coal and lignite sector is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Coal	Lignite	Total
1991-92	1648.67	48.35	1697.02
1992-93	2233.16	43.37	2276.53
1993-94	2249.90	43.24	2293.14
1994-95	2125.91	112.82	2238.73
1995-96	1855.18	136.03	1991.21

Steps taken/proposed to ensure adequate flow of investment in coal sector to meet the growing demand of coal, *inter-alia,* include:

(i) Partial de-regulation of coal prices which is likely to improve the generation of internal financial resources of the coal companies.

(ii) The capital base of Coal India Limited has been restructured which will, *inter-alia,* enable it to raise additional financial resources from the capital markets which are required to add new coal production capacity.

(iii) Efforts to recover the outstanding coal sale dues in order to augment availability of resources with the public sector undertakings in the coal sector.

(iv) Private sector companies engaged in production of iron and steel, cement and generation of power have been permitted to take up coal mining for captive consumption. This is expected to increase investment in coal production and hence increase availability.

(v) To attract private investment in the coal sector, Government has decided to propose necessary legislative changes to enable any Indian company to mine coal and lignite for sale.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal has not been finalised so far.

(c) Subject to legislative changes, the government have accepted the recommendation of the Committee on Integrated Coal Policy to offer new coal blocks, without any restriction on captive coal mining, to Indian companies, including public sector companies, on the basis of competitive bids. The Government have also accepted the recommendation of the Committee that price of coal from new coal mining projects to be taken up henceforth, may be fixed on the basis of negotiations between the coal producer and the consumer. Prices of A, B, C and D grades of coal, soft and hard coke have already been deregulated. The prices of other grades of coal will be fixed twice a year upto 01.01.2000 according to BICP formula based upon stipulated indices. Total 69 mining blocks have been identified so far far possible investment by Indian companies and State power utilities.

Norms for privatisation of coal sector

1503. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governent have taken steps to privatise mining, transport and sale of coal;

(b) if so, the norms prescribed for the privatisation of coal sector;

(c) whether safety aspect has been taken care of while making such a decision; and

(d) if so, the details of the provisions incorporated in the privatisation norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The Government propose to move a Bill to amend the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act in order to enable any Indian company to undertake coal mining.

(b) It is proposed that interested

parties would be required to bid on a competitive basis for a right to obtain a mining lease on any given property. Only virgin properties would be offered under this process.

(c) Mining at all times will be undertaken by any party only with the strictest adherence to safety aspects.

(d) The rules and regulations which would govern the entry of private sector into coal mining are under examination in Ministries of Mines and Law.

Deregulation of coal prices

1504. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner deregulation of coal prices before emergence of large number of players in the domestic market and thereby creating effective competitive position would be conducive for coal consumers and also for the development of the domestic coal industry itself;

(b) whether it is not a fact that even the partial deregulation of coal prices have already reflected monopolistic operational situation in the domestic coal industry, and as a result thereof the users of coking coal in particular are looking for alternative sources of coking coal supplies, including imports; and

(c) in what manner these trends are conducive for the development of the domestic coal industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The de-regulation of the coal prices of A, B, C & D grades of coal is coupled with the lowering of import tariffs on import of non-coking coal. Imported coal is also not subject to payment of any royalty. These developments would lead to the emergence of a competitive market for coal in India with beneficial effects on consumers' and on the domestic coal industry.

(b) No, Sir. After adjusting for quality the price of imported cooking coal is higher than that of domestic coking coal. Further, certain grades of coking coal would necessarily have to be imported as the country does not produce the same.

(c) The strengthening of market forces, the introduction of competition and the reduction of monopoly would be conducive for the development of domenstic coal industry.

कांडला निर्यात संवर्धन क्षेत्र

1505. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उन इकाइयों और उनकी उत्पादन क्षमता का ब्यौरा क्या है, जिन्हें कांडला निर्यात संवर्धन क्षेत्र में भूमि आबंटित कर दी गई है;

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक वर्ष में इन इकाइयों द्वारा कितने मूल्य का निर्यात किया गया है;

(ग) उन इकाइयों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिन्हें वाणिज्यिक उत्पादन आरंभ करने से पूर्व ही रुग्ण घोषित कर दिया गया था; और

(घ) सरकार ने कांडला निर्यात संवर्धन क्षेत्र द्वारा किए जा रहे निर्यात में वृद्धि करने हेतु क्या कदम उठाये हैं?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (डा० बोल्ला बुल्ली रमैया): (क) 97 एककों को जो इस समय चल रहे हैं, कांडला मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्र में भूमि/तैयार शैड आबंटित किए गए हैं। अन्य 51 एकक, जिन्हें भूमि/तैयार शैड आबंटित किए गए हैं, क्रियान्वयन के अधीन हैं। ये एकक व्यापक रूप से वस्त्र, रसायन, इंजीनियरी सामान, खनिज आदि के उत्पाद-समूहों के अंतर्गत आते हैं। मूल्यवर्द्धन तथा निर्यात के अनुमानित स्तर जैसे कारकों को ध्यान में रखकर इन एककों को अनुमोदित किया जाता है। उत्पादन क्षमता से संबंधित आंकड़े नहीं रखे जा रहे हैं।

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कांडला मुक्त व्यापार क्षेत्र से किए गए निर्यात निम्नानुसार हैं:—

वर्ष	निर्यात (करोड़ रु० में)
1993-94	270.36
1994-95	320.01
1995-96	320.29

(ग) पिछले पांच वर्षों के दौरान, वाणिज्यिक